

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

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KC MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSION, INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE CLUB DRUG

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to possession with intent to distribute the club drug nexus.

James K. Russell, 27, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning.

By pleading guilty, **Russell** admitted that he possessed with intent to distribute nexus on Sept. 10, 2000.

Russell was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 11, 2003, in Kansas City.

At the time of his initial arrest, law enforcement officers had come upon **Russell's** car at approximately 1:22 a.m. The officers discovered **Russell** to be unconscious, hanging partially out of the open driver's side door. **Russell** was then arrested and transported to Truman Medical Center for treatment.

Upon searching Russell's vehicle, law enforcement officers discovered 78 nexus pills.

Under federal statutes, **Russell** may be subject to a maximum sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus fines up to \$1 million. His sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kathleen D. Mahoney. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Drug Enforcement

Administration.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow